Amendments to Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended)   A method of establishing a third party call comprising:

    responsive to a telephone call initiated by a third party to a directory number of a called party, first determining that said called party is engaged in an existing telephone call with one or more other parties;

    establishing a telephony connection between the third party and a telephony application via an application directory number that is different from the directory number of the called party;

    receiving the directory number of the called party from the third party;

    processing said telephone call in a-the telephony application, said telephony application determining whether said third party has authority to join said existing telephone call with said called party; and

    if so, connecting said third party with said existing telephone call.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein said processing step further comprises:

    receiving a password from said third party; and

    determining whether said third party is an authorized party using at least said password.

3. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein said processing step further comprises:

    identifying caller identification information associated with said third party;

    comparing said caller identification information with a list of authorized callers; and

    determining whether said third party is an authorized party.

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4.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein said connecting step further comprises:

connecting said call only if said directory number of said called party has been registered to receive calls initiated from authorized remote third party callers when engaged in an existing telephone call.

5.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein said connecting step comprises:

establishing a communications link between said third party and said called party exclusive of said other parties involved in said existing telephone call.

6.   (Original)   A method of establishing a third party call comprising:

receiving a telephone call from said third party to an access directory number;

receiving a directory number from said third party, wherein said directory number is associated with a called party;

processing said telephone call in a telephony application, said telephony application determining that said called party is engaged in an existing telephone call with one or more other parties, and determining whether said third party has authority to join said existing telephone call with said called party; and

if so, connecting said third party with said existing telephone call.

7.   (Original)   The method of claim 6, wherein said processing step further comprises:

prompting said third party for a password;

receiving said password from said third party; and

determining whether said third party is an authorized party using at least said password.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 6, wherein said processing step further comprises:

identifying caller identification information associated with said third party;

comparing said caller identification information with a list of authorized callers; and

determining whether said third party is an authorized party.

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9.   (Original)   The method of claim 6, wherein said connecting step further comprises:

connecting said call only if said directory number of said called party has been registered

to receive calls initiated from authorized remote third party callers when engaged in an existing

telephone call.

10.   (Original)   The method of claim 6, wherein said connecting step comprises:

establishing a communications link between said third party and said called party

exclusive of said other parties involved in said existing telephone call.

11.   (Currently amended)   An IP node accessible by a third party via a node directory

access number having a telephony application configured to first determine that a called party is

engaged in an existing telephone call with one or more other parties responsive to a telephone

call initiated by a the third party to a directory number of said called party; to process said

telephone call in said telephony application, wherein said telephony application determines

whether said third party has authority to join said existing telephone call with said called party;

and if so, to connect said third party with said existing telephone call.

12.   (Currently Amended)   An IP node accessible by a third party via a node directory

access number having a telephony application configured to receive a telephone call from a the

third party to an access directory number; to receive a directory number from said third party,

wherein said directory number is associated with a called party; to process said telephone call in

said telephony application, wherein said telephony application determines that said called party

is engaged in an existing telephone call with one or more other parties and to determine whether

said third party has authority to join said existing telephone call with said called party; and if so,

to connect said third party with said existing telephone call.

13.   (Currently Amended)   A machine-readable storage, having stored thereon a

computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the

machine to perform the steps of:

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responsive to a telephone call initiated by a third party to a directory number of a called

party, first determining that said called party is engaged in an existing telephone call with one or

more other parties;

establishing a telephony connection between the third party and a telephony application

via an application directory number that is different from the directory number of the called

party;

receiving the directory number of the called party from the third party;

processing said telephone call in a the telephony application, said telephony application

determining whether said third party has authority to join said existing telephone call with said

called party; and

if so, connecting said third party with said existing telephone call.

14.   (Original)   The machine-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said processing step

further comprises:

receiving a password from said third party; and

determining whether said third party is an authorized party using at least said password.

15.   (Original)   The machine-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said processing step

further comprises:

identifying caller identification information associated with said third party;

comparing said caller identification information with a list of authorized callers; and

determining whether said third party is an authorized party.

16.   (Original)   The machine-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said connecting step

further comprises:

connecting said call only if said directory number of said called party has been registered

to receive calls initiated from authorized remote third party callers when engaged in an existing

telephone call.

17. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said connecting step comprises:

establishing a communications link between said third party and said called party exclusive of said other parties involved in said existing telephone call.

18. (Original) A machine-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

receiving a telephone call from said third party to an access directory number;

receiving a directory number from said third party, wherein said directory number is associated with a called party;

processing said telephone call in a telephony application, said telephony application determining that said called party is engaged in an existing telephone call with one or more other parties, and determining whether said third party has authority to join said existing telephone call with said called party; and

if so, connecting said third party with said existing telephone call.

19. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 18, wherein said processing step further comprises:

prompting said third party for a password;

receiving said password from said third party; and

determining whether said third party is an authorized party using at least said password.

20. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 18, wherein said processing step further comprises:

identifying caller identification information associated with said third party;

comparing said caller identification information with a list of authorized callers; and

determining whether said third party is an authorized party.

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21.   (Original)   The machine-readable storage of claim 18, wherein said connecting step further comprises:

connecting said call only if said directory number of said called party has been registered to receive calls initiated from authorized remote third party callers when engaged in an existing telephone call.

22.   (Original)   The machine-readable storage of claim 18, wherein said connecting step comprises:

establishing a communications link between said third party and said called party exclusive of said other parties involved in said existing telephone call.

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